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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/823,049	04/12/2004	Kurt R. Goldsmith	42P18726	4091

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VINH P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2829

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/823,049	Applicant(s) GOLDSMITH ET AL.	
	Examiner VINH P. NGUYEN	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 34-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-15, 17-24 and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-10, 16, 35-36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2829

1. In previous office action, in paragraphs # 6 and 7, "Tan" should be inserted after "anticipated by". Correction has been made.

2. Claims 1-7,34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

It appears that the limitation of **"a generally planar surface and one of conductive pads and trace pads and surrounding the generally planar surfaces such that the generally planar surface is accessible to a pick and place vacuum force attachment"** as recited in claim 1 raise new matter since the new added new limitation does not have original support in the specification. It appears that the conductive pads and trace pads are different from the energy conduit devices .

The dependent claims not specifically address share the same indefiniteness as they depend from rejected base claims.

3. Claims 1-4,8-19,20-24,34-36 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, it is unclear how the conductive pads and trace pads are associated and interrelated with the energy conduits or energy conduit devices (142-144).

In claims 8 and 20, it is unclear which part of apparatus having size that this smaller or equal in depth as compared to a depth of an inner dimension of the cavity.

In claim 12, it is unclear what “a plurality of contacts” comprises of. Are these contacts the same as “a plurality of energy conduits” of the test device portion. Furthermore, it is unclear how “a plurality of contacts” are interrelated and associated with energy conduits

The dependent claims not specifically address share the same indefiniteness as they depend from objected base claims.

Appropriate correction is required.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (Pat # 5,436,570).

Since the limitation of “a generally planar surface and **one of conductive pads and Trace pads surrounding the generally planar surfaces**” is considered as new matter, this limitation is not given any patentable weight.

As to claim 1, Tan discloses an apparatus for testing a socket having a first side (5) including a generally planar surface, a lid portion (20) including the first side (5) including a first side and having a dimension at least large enough to cover or extend over a plurality of contacts

of a socket (21) and a test device portion (22) integral with the lid portion (20) and having a plurality of energy conduits (15) to provide a response to a plurality of energy stimuli to a second side (22) disposed opposite the first side and a second side (22) having a dimension suitable to be removably coupled to a socket (21).

As to claim 2, it appears that the lid portion (20) includes a dimension to protect the contacts of the socket (21) from impact and electrically coupled from the first side.

As to claim 3, it appears that the energy conduits (15) includes a plurality of stimuli transfer zones (contact surfaces of the conduits (15)).

As to claim 4, it appears that the energy conduits (15) are to transfer a plurality of energy stimuli (test signals) between the second side (22) and the first side (5).

As to claim 5, it appears that the stimuli transfer zones are to transfer the energy stimuli (test signals) between the zones and the contact by electrical contact.

As to claims 6-7, it appears that the stimuli transfer zones (contact surfaces of the conduits (15)) are to couple to the contacts by a coupling causing a force actuation compression or compliance of the contacts through forces from an operator or machine.

6. Claims 8, 11-15, 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (Pat # 5,436,570).

For the purpose of examining, Examiner reads the test device portion as a second side and the second side as a test device portion.

As to claim 8, Tan discloses an apparatus for testing a socket having a first side (5) including a generally planar surface and a second side/test portion (22) disposed opposite the first side and having a dimension suitable to be removably coupled to a socket (21), a lid portion (20) including the first side (5) including a first side and having a dimension at least large enough to cover or extend over a plurality of contacts of a socket (21) and a test device portion/second side (22) integral with the lid portion (20) and having a plurality of energy conduits (15) to receive a plurality of energy stimuli from a plurality of contacts of the socket (21) and to provide a response to the contacts. It appears that a lower portion of the test head (22) with the beveled edges (12) and energy conduits (15) formed has a size that is smaller or equal in depth as compared to a depth of an inner dimension of the cavity (opening area of the socket).

As to claim 11, it appears that the second side is removably couple to a socket via a physical restraint.

As to claim 12, it appears that the second side/test portion (22) has a plurality of contacts (15) to electrically coupled to the contacts of the sockets

As to claim 13, the energy stimuli includes an electrical energy (test signal or power signal).

As to claim 14, it appears that the lid portion (20) inherently includes at least an orienting shape with the test device portion (22) disposed near to the socket (21).

As to claim 15, the conduits (15) are electrical contacts.

As to claim 17, each of the conduits (15) has a location and a physical dimension to receive at least one of the plurality of energy stimuli at a first location of the second side/test device portion (22) and respond to the at least one of the plurality of energy stimuli to the first location or to a second location of the second side/test device portion (22).

As to claim 18, Tan discloses a plurality of contacts (4) to receive stimuli (test signals) or to provide a response to stimuli received by the apparatus.

As to claim 19, it appears that the lid (20) includes a material suitable to protect the plurality of contacts from impact damage, dust, dirt and additional electrical coupling.

As to claims 20 and 22, Tan discloses a printed circuit board (17), a socket (21), coupled to the printed circuit board (17), having a cavity and plurality of contacts (19) within the cavity and an apparatus removably coupled to the socket (21) having a first side (5) including a generally planar surface and a second side/test portion (22) disposed opposite the first side and having a dimension suitable to be removably coupled to a socket (21), a lid portion (20) including the first side (5) including a first side and having a dimension at least large enough to cover or extend over a plurality of contacts of a socket (21) and a test device portion/second side (22) integral with the lid portion (20) and having a plurality of energy

conduits (15) to receive a plurality of energy stimuli from a plurality of contacts of the socket (21) and to provide a response to the contacts. It appears that the test portion (22) has a thickness less than a depth of the cavity (opening area of the socket). It is noted that the printed circuit board is a burn-in board and this board is inherently connected to a computer.

As to claim 21, it appears that the energy conduits (15) are to respond to a plurality of electronic signals received from the contacts of the socket (21).

As to claim 23, it is well known that the computer would include an active electronic device.

As to claim 24, it appears that the lid (20) includes a material suitable to protect the plurality of contacts from impact damage, dust, dirt and additional electrical coupling.

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 and 34-36 filed on 03/06/06 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicants argue that Tan reference Pat No. 5,436,570 do not show or suggest a generally planar surface and one of conductive pads and trace pads surrounding the planar surface as required by claim 1.

Examiner believes that this feature as mentioned by Applicants do not have original support in the original specification. Furthermore, it is unclear that whether the conductive pads and trace pads are different from the energy conduit devices. Therefore this limitation is not given any patentable weight.

Applicants also argue that Tan reference does not disclose an apparatus having size that is smaller or equal in depth as compared to a depth of an inner dimension of the cavity but much greater in depth than the cavity of the socket.

Examiner believes that a lower portion of the test head (22) with the beveled edges (12) and energy conduits (15) formed has a size that is smaller or equal in depth as compared to a depth of an inner dimension of the cavity.


8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINH P. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-1964. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 571-272-2034. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


VINH P NGUYEN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2829
05/01/06